25th March 1963]

SRI G. KRISHNAMOORTHY : Is there any proposal to take away these boxes?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : We shall provide the facility and leave it to the public to use it properly.

Polytechnic School

* 68 Q.—SRI L. S. KARAYALAR : Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries be pleased to state whether there is any proposal for opening a polytechnic school at Shencottah and if so, the stage at which the matter now stands?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : No.

SRI L. S. KARAYALAR : May I ask, in view of the fact that more than Rs. 35 lakhs has been allotted for this particular area of the transferred territory and there was a proposal in the Second Five-Year Plan to have a polytechnic there, why it has been dropped and why the answer is in the negative?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : The answer is in the negative because Government have decided to establish three new additional polytechnics in the Third Five-Year Plan in other places. So far as this district is concerned, Tirunelveli has two polytechnics and, therefore, it is considered not necessary to have one there.

SRI L. S. KARAYALAR : In view of the fact that nothing has been done for this particular area of the transferred territory, will the Government consider, if not a polytechnic, at least something else like an industrial school for Shencottah?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : The Member may write a letter to the Ministry.

Agricultural Pumpsets

69 Q.—SRI M. SUBBIAH CHETTIAR : Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the minimum guarantee charge for consumption of electricity in the case of agricultural pumpsets in Darapuram and Palladam taluks of Coimbatore district has been reduced, and if so, the reasons therefor; and

(b) whether there is any proposal to reduce the minimum guarantee charge for consumption of electricity in the case of agricultural pumpsets in Paramathi and Chinnadarapuram areas in Karur taluk?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : (a) Yes. With effect from 1st April 1960 the special minimum guarantee for agricultural pumpsets in these taluks was reduced from Rs. 50 to Rs. 35 per h.p. per annum, in view of their economic backwardness with particular reference to the growth of electric power in the area.